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TO : United States Patent and Trademark Office
ATTN.: Examiner Joshua M. Dubnow, Group Art Unit 2861
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FROM : Paul Teng OUR DOCKET NO.: 2271/74479
DATE : July 19, 2007

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In connection with Serial No. 10/536,741:

Communication In Response To June 27, 2007 Office Action

Due Date: July 27, 2007

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Goro KATSUYAMA ET AL.

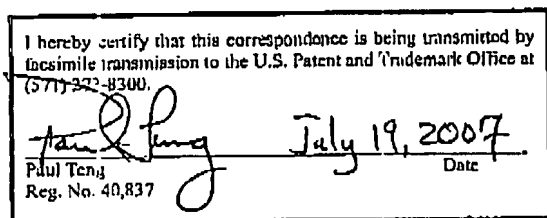
Serial No.: 10/536,741

Group Art Unit: 2861

Date Filed: May 27, 2005

Examiner: Joshua M. Dubnow

For: COMPACT FRONT-OPERABLE IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS



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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO
JUNE 27, 2007 OFFICE ACTION

This Communication is submitted in response to the June 27, 2007 Office Action issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office which indicates that examination of the above-identified patent application will be restricted under 35 U.S.C. §121 and 372 to one of the following group of claims:

- Group I, claim(s) 1-6, drawn to an image forming apparatus with a slanted front face and the bottom side of which recedes backward;
- Group II, claim(s) 7-10, drawn to an image forming apparatus with a stripe-shaped dividing element;
- Group III, claim(s) 11, drawn to an image forming apparatus with a release mechanism that releases the pressure provided to the paper stack;
- Group IV, claim(s) 12-15, drawn to an image forming apparatus with a move mechanism that moves the paper feed tray in a direction opposite to the direction in which the paper is fed;

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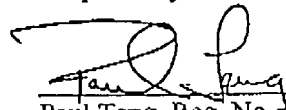
- (Group V, claim(s) 16, drawn to a paper discharge tray with a slope on which the paper is stacked;
- (Group VI, claim(s) 17-18, drawn to a paper discharge tray wherein side portions of the paper discharge tray in directions perpendicular to a direction in which the paper is discharged are lower than a middle portion;
- (Group VII, claim(s) 19-23, drawn to an image forming apparatus with a detachable transport cover provided on a rear side of the image forming apparatus; and
- (Group VIII, claim(s) 24-27, drawn to an image forming apparatus with a recording liquid cartridge that is disposed on a front face of the image forming apparatus.

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group I. Currently pending claims readable on Group I include claims 1-6.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required in connection with this response and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,


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